



Dr. B. R. Ambedkar University Delhi

Research and Development Division

Shodhotsav 2026: Sixth Annual Research Festival

Call for Abstracts

Sustainability: Roots, Resilience & Regulation

Bridging Heritage, Human Adaptation, and Systemic Governance for Sustainable Development

(National Young Researchers' Conference)

11 September (Friday) 2026

Concept Note

Shodhotsav 2026 invites submissions from college/university students and early career researchers from across the disciplines to participate in a one-day National Young Researchers' Conference on the theme “**Sustainability: Roots, Resilience & Regulation**”. The conference aims to bring together early career researchers, PhD scholars, and students to engage with multiple dimensions of sustainable development for a Viksit Bharat. The conference invites contributions that discuss conceptual foundations, complex and diverse empirical realities affecting realisation of the 17 SDGs, as well as sustainable practices rooted in tradition, strengthened through resilience, and guided by effective regulations and policies. The conference thus seeks to promote substantial and meaningful discussions on sustainable development across social, psychological, educational, cultural, technological, environmental, economic, and governance aspects. It aims to revisit indigenous wisdom and traditional knowledge while tackling emerging challenges and innovations that influence the realisation of Viksit Bharat 2047. The event will offer a platform for exchanging research, best practices, policy views, and transformative ideas that contribute to building resilient individuals, communities, institutions, and ecosystems.

Key Themes

Individual actions are important, but they cannot solve systemic crises without structural support. On the other hand, structural interventions and policies cannot succeed without a resilient population to implement them. By combining these three areas, the conference aims to break down academic barriers and foster practical solutions. The conference invites original research papers, conceptual papers, case studies, reviews, and practice-based contributions under the following sub-themes (but not limited to):

Theme I: Roots (Heritage, Time, & Holistic Wellness)**Theme II: Resilience (Mind, Body, & Anthropogenic Systems)****Theme III: Regulation (Policy frames and institutional arrangements for sustainable development)****Theme I: Roots (Heritage, Time, & Holistic Wellness):**

This theme explores historical precedents and indigenous practices as blueprints for an alternative conversation on the idea of sustainability and sustainable development.

- Indigenous Medicines & Healing
- Traditional Choices & Practices: Diversity and Meanings
- Sustainability: Then, Now, and Future
- Heritage Management and Sustainable Tourism

Theme II: Resilience (Mind, Body & Anthropogenic Systems)

This theme focuses on building adaptive capacity within individuals, social, political and economic landscapes, and urban infrastructures.

- Wellbeing and Quality of life
- Sustainability Consciousness & Behavior
- Inclusive and Equitable Quality Education
- Sustainability and Changing forms and Cultures of Consumption
- Urbanization and sustainability of human settlement
- Organizations and Sustainable Development Goals

Theme III: Regulation (Policy frames and institutional arrangements for sustainable development)

This theme focuses on the global and national perspectives and experiences around critical conversations anchored in governance, policy and legal frameworks on sustainable development for Viksit Bharat.

- Global Politics and Sustainable Futures
- Inclusive Governance and Reduced Inequalities
- Gender Equality and Democracy
- Peace, Justice and Human Rights
- Artificial Intelligence, Digital Governance and Ethics

Who Can Participate?

1. The conference is open to young researchers including recent graduates, post-graduates and MPhil/PhD scholars from any discipline relevant to the conference theme.
2. There can be multiple authors for a paper submission; however, the lead/ first author should be a young researcher as defined above and only the lead/ first author will be considered for the prize/ best paper.
3. In case of multiple authors, individual authors will have to register separately for the conference.

Important Dates

Last date Submission of Abstracts extended to 24 August 2026

Notification of Acceptance: 27 August 2026

Last date for Registration: 31 August 2026

Date of Conference: Friday, 11 September 2026

Conference Participation

The conference will be held in-person only at the Karampura Campus of the University.

Registration Fee

1. There is no registration fee for any currently enrolled student of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University Delhi (AUD) or any graduate (alumni) from any programme of the university.
2. For all non-AUD participants, the registration fee is Rs. 500/- (Rupees Five Hundred) only. This includes the cost of conference kit and meals on the day of the conference. The registration link will be shared with lead authors whose abstracts have been shortlisted.
3. There is no provision for meeting the costs of accommodation and/or travel for outstation presenters. Presenters must bear their own costs.

Prizes

A jury composed of experts will select the best paper from each thematic panel of the conference and the overall best conference paper, based on the presentation by the young scholar and the full paper submission. Original, high quality papers which advance knowledge in a particular field / thematic will be considered for the best paper prizes. The lead/ first author for the best paper in a panel will be awarded Rs. 1500/- and the lead/ first author for the best conference paper will be awarded Rs. 5000/-.

Submission Guidelines:

1. **Title:** A concise and informative title.
2. **Abstract:** A summary of the paper or extended abstract (300 words max) highlighting the research question, methodology, key findings, and relevance to the conference theme.
3. **Keywords:** Up to five keywords that describe the main topics of the paper.
4. **Format:** Submissions should be in English and follow APA, MLA, or another relevant academic style. The deadline for abstract submission is 24 August 2026 (11:59 PM).
5. Abstract can be submitted online through the following link:
<https://forms.gle/FiBf2xaxcFo6ZREn8>

Contact Information

For inquiries regarding submissions, registration, or general information, please contact the conference organising committee at **shodhotsav@aud.ac.in** with the subject line [National Young Researchers' Conference 2026].